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BULLETIN OF
Central College
Fayette, Missouri



Endowment Number

An Appeal by the Curators

*An Address by the
Presiding Elders*

*The Movement to Increase
the Endowment to
\$500,000*

SERIES VIII

DECEMBER, 1912

NOS. 1 AND 2

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To the People Called Methodists In the State of Missouri.



THE curators have unitedly determined to make an appeal to you in the name of our common church and our common state, to give \$225,000 toward the permanent endowment of Central College. In a very large degree the success of our church in Missouri is dependent on the success of Central College. In a very large degree the success of every church in Missouri—Baptist, Presbyterian, Congregational, Episcopal, Christian—is dependent upon the success of its own church college; and in a very large degree the success of the college of every one of these churches is dependent on the success of Central College.

Ours is one of the strongest churches in the state. We have about 120,000 members. Our people are no longer poor. If we cannot succeed in maintaining one college of the highest learning, how can any of these other church colleges in Missouri hope to succeed? Have you ever contemplated what a great hurt to the church, to morality, to civilization itself, the closing of all the church colleges in Missouri would inflict? Take out of Missouri all the church colleges, and before many years the ministry would be an ignorant one, and an ignorant ministry means a fanatical and superstitious people, or a people without any religion at all.

Do you wish an ignorant ministry for your church? If not, how can you get an educated one without your church college? Do not suppose you can look to the state schools for educated preachers. Ministers are not educated in state colleges. Men are educated there, but they rarely become ministers. You can count on the fingers of your two hands every minister in every church you know or have known in thirty years that was educated in a state university. Such schools have little religious atmosphere, and ministers do not grow in a non-religious atmosphere, any more than magnolias grow on icebergs.

Nor do graduates of state schools usually become aggressive Christian laymen. They are courteous to the church, their attitude toward it is respectful and friendly, but he is a rare man among them who becomes a burden-bearer for his church and a positive, persistent, leading force in it. In this "American melting pot" the church needs educated laymen almost as much as it needs educated ministers.

There can be no great church without church colleges. There can be no abiding, permanent great church without its own college. There never has been. So when the church college is removed from the land the way is being prepared for the removal of the church itself. Take out of Missouri all the churches and civilization is wounded to its very heart. A civilization without Christ is a heathen civilization. Anywhere in this world where there are no Christian churches the people are liars, ignorant, superstitious, idolaters, cruel, poor. Wherever Christianity blossoms and blooms as native to the hearts of the people, they are truthful, kind, patient, charitable, considerate, educated, honest, industrious, enterprising, courageous, peaceful, law-abiding. The church is the great repository of good morals. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only true moral code. Give the church a great permanent place in Missouri and the happiness and prosperity of our people are assured. On the other hand there is not a county in the State whose real estate would not within twenty or thirty years after all churches were removed from it, decrease at least fifty per cent of its present value. Valuable property cannot exist apart from morality, any more than can just government. By leading men to be righteous the church prepares the way for making them rich.

So in pleading the cause of Central College we are pleading the cause of the church and of civilization.

Central College has proved its right to ask for larger endowment. It has a splendid alumni. No school in the State—university or college—has a more brilliant one. Its graduates are found as missionaries in Japan, China and South America. They are ministers in half of the annual conferences of our church. All the collegiate education two-thirds

of the members of the Missouri Conference ever obtained they received at Central College, and the same is true of about one-third the members of the Southwest Missouri and St. Louis Conferences. They have served as editors, city pastors, presiding elders and circuit riders. In other walks of life its graduates have been equally as successful. They are presidents of colleges and universities, professors in church and state schools, superintendents of city schools, and teachers in every kind of schools. A large number have become able lawyers, and stand at the very forefront of the bar all the way from Boston to Los Angeles. Many have become physicians, bankers, merchants, editors and farmers. Some have become authors and scientists. They have all been men of sound character and healthy minds. Always they have been and are sincere men. They stand for the highest and best things. Candid, frank, genuine, unpretentious, they have gone quietly about doing the things that were worth while. With minds trained to estimate things at their real value, they have not been turned aside to follow after vain things. They believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and they consider God the source of all righteousness. As ministers, as lawyers, as teachers, as physicians, as citizens in all honorable vocations in life, the graduates of no small college in all the land, and the graduates of no other school in Missouri, have surpassed them. They were bred in Christian homes, by parents of sound faith and robust thoughts and steadfast convictions, in an atmosphere of plain living and high thinking, trained to honest toil and patient endurance, and those are the best families, and out of them come the best college students. It is to educate that kind of men that we want more endowment for Central College.

Sixty years ago the wisest men in our church saw that if we were to take the lead in the moral life of this State and to have a large permanent place, we must have a great college. Among them were Governor Trusten Polk, Bishop E. M. Marvin, Dr. D. R. McAnally, William G. Caples, Dr. W. M. Prottsman, Adam Hendrix, Dr. Nathan Scarritt, Judge Abiel Leonard, Dr. Thomas M. Finney, Rev. Tyson Dines and Dr.

W. M. Rush. Under the leadership of these and other mighty men, the college was founded and began its work with buoyant hopes. Then soon came the Civil War, to cut off the sources of its income and to close its doors. The war over, these same men rallied its friends and determined to put it upon an enduring foundation. They determined to raise at least \$100,000 endowment. It was an inspiring scene in Fayette forty-four years ago when several of these men, some of whom had been reduced to poverty by the war, subscribed \$5,000 each for this new purpose, a large sum then. They appointed Dr. Rush to go forth as the College agent. Other men assisted. The movement was a success, but not enough was raised—a large sum for that time, but a small one for this.

Since then the endowment has slowly grown. There has scarcely been a year in the last thirty that as much as one thousand dollars has not been added to it by some friend, either by will or direct gift. The college now has an endowment of something over \$200,000. It has grown more rapidly in property. From four acres of campus, and one building, with a debt on it of about \$13,000, at the time of that great Fayette meeting, it has grown until now it has about thirty-five acres of ground and over \$300,000 worth of property.

Our expenses have been larger than our income for many years. Heretofore, a member of the board of large wealth has come forward at the end of each year to pay the deficit. Only a few men know or will ever know how much money he paid out in order that the college might do its work well. In a sense he was its endowment. But Mr. Samuel Cupples has matriculated in the college of saints on High, and we have no man to take his place.

The incidental expenses of the college have greatly increased with the years—just as the expenses of every other institution have increased—just as the expenses of your local church and school have increased. We are as economical as men can be. No money is wasted. Every dollar is made to count. But times are changing, and men and things change with them. Every material thing costs more than it did thirty years ago—most things twice as much as they did then.

But while our incidental expenses have greatly increased the salaries of our professors have not. We have had to add new professors, because the increase of students and the necessity to keep pace with the best colleges required them. But we pay them no higher salaries than we did twenty, thirty, or forty years ago. The church has had no more faithful and self-sacrificing laborers than these heroic professors. They are all underpaid. Men of no greater scholarship and no greater skill as teachers and of far less earnestness of purpose are in state schools and elsewhere paid twice as much. Some of them have for years remained with us at salaries we knew were unfair. They remained with us because they love the church and wish to invest their lives in young men who they know will be of the largest usefulness to you and the church and the state. But we cannot ask them to take less. There are limits to heroism and self-sacrifice even in the best causes. There are limits beyond which decency and fairness will not permit any man to ask other men to go.

We need more professors, we need to pay those we have better salaries, and we are face to face every year with a deficit.

The General Education Board, a corporation which has an endowment of \$42,000,000, with no colleges of its own, but organized for the purpose of aiding colleges which already have a constituency insuring permanency and a large field of usefulness, has offered to give us \$75,000, without any other conditions whatever except these three: (1) the \$75,000 is to be added to our permanent endowment; (2) we must from other sources raise \$225,000 more; and (3) the college must be entirely free from debt. The General Board allows us until October 14, 1914, to complete the subscriptions for the \$225,000, and agrees that they may be paid in five equal annual installments, beginning not later than December 31, 1914. As often as three dollars are paid to our treasurer on these subscriptions, the General Board will pay one dollar. In other words, our plan is to add \$300,000 net to our endowment, and of that sum the General Board will give one-fourth, or \$75,000; but it will give nothing unless we raise the \$225,000.

That is the situation. For years we have hoped and prayed for a sufficient endowment. The times now seem propitious. Aside from this offer of the General Board we are in the midst of great prosperity. Missouri has never had more bountiful crops than during the year 1912. The presiding elders, the pastors, all the annual conferences, many laymen with whom we have conferred, say now is the time, and that this should be the one great general work of our church in Missouri until this \$300,000 is assured. There has never been a better time to undertake to raise it.

We have not spasmodically or suddenly determined to launch this great undertaking. We have cautiously considered our resources and estimated the abilities of our people to give this money; we have tried to measure properly their lack of genuine interest in collegiate education, as well as their love for the church and for the college; we have wondered if the people, whose college this is, and whose servants we are, would cooperate with us; and calmly, deliberately and prayerfully we have reached the conclusion to appeal to the friends of the college to raise this \$225,000.

In doing that we believe we are offering you a magnificent opportunity to do valuable work for your Lord. There is no better way in which you can invest your money than in the lives of sterling young men. Give us a college of \$500,000 endowment and in turn the college will give you well equipped ministers and sound laymen.

Remember that the endowment of the college can never be used to erect buildings or buy grounds or to pay current expenses. It is only its annual income that can be used for any of those things. It is itself kept as a sacred fund and must always be. The most enduring corporations in the world are colleges. There are colleges in Europe a thousand years old. Dynasties have been overthrown, and the boundaries of nations changed, and other nations have arisen to take the places of those that have passed into history, but these colleges have endured the wreck of empires and go on in their quiet work. Old Oxford in England runs so far back into the dim past that no historian has been able to state with accuracy the date of its origin. The oldest institution in

B u l l e t i n o f C e n t r a l C o l l e g e

America is Harvard University—dating from 1636, when John Harvard, a Puritan minister, gave all his property, four thousand pounds, to establish a college—and a few years ago President Eliot said that not one dollar of its endowment had ever been permanently lost since that year of 1636.

So remember that whatever you give to Central College will work on and on and on after you and your children and grandchildren and their children are dead and forgotten.

The campaign for the present has been placed in the hands of Dr. W. A. Webb as manager. We ask every one by whom this appeal is read to cooperate with him. We want every person to give something. We want subscriptions from \$25,000 down to \$5. Already we are assured that a few persons will give the larger sum. But rich persons should not be permitted to give the whole amount. We would greatly rejoice if at least ten thousand persons would make gifts to this fund.

We ask you to make this movement your movement, and to take our appeal upon your conscience and into your plans.

Very respectfully,

JOHN A. RICH,
Chairman of the Board.

L. W. JACOBS,
Secretary of the Board.

F. S. GROVES,
Treasurer of the Board.

WILLIAM A. WEBB,
President of the College.

PERRY S. RADER,
Chairman of Endowment Committee.

S. P. CRESAP, Curator

M. H. DAVIS, Curator

B. D. SIPPLE, Curator

F. M. BURTON, Curator

J. P. HUSTON, Curator

W. F. McMURRY, Curator

W. C. SCARRITT, Curator

J. H. BYRD, Curator

J. W. VAUGHAN, Curator

C. M. HAY, Curator

J. A. LEAVELL, Curator

A. B. CULBERTSON, Curator

H. P. WOODSON, Curator

R. T. LINDSAY, Curator

E. R. HENDRIX, Curator

LOUIS BOEGER, Curator

J. W. FRISTOE, Curator

LON V. STEPHENS, Curator

LAWRENCE BOOGHER, Curator.

An Address by the Presiding Elders.

Central College is now facing the most important crisis in her history. The next few months will determine whether she is to become a thoroughly equipped college able to do an ever increasingly greater work, or failing in this, pass into a decadent state that must ultimately mean death. Great and rapid changes are taking place in the work of education—changes that make necessary larger resources to successfully maintain a college. Greater buildings, greater libraries, greater laboratories, and a better paid faculty than formerly are all necessary to the work of a modern educational plant. The institution that is not able to provide these things cannot hope to secure students and it could not consistently with its own honor and in justice to them attempt to instruct them if they could be secured.

Because of this increased demand and in order to maintain its former high standard Central College has been compelled for the past few years to go beyond its income. The annual deficit has been generously met from year to year by friends of the college. The largest contributor to this fund has recently been removed by death, and unless the annual deficit can be provided for, there must be retrenchment. The only sure provision against such a contingency is a permanent endowment. This much is necessary to maintain the institution as it is. Moreover if Central is to continue to rank with the leading colleges of the state there must be expansion. The additional expense of maintenance which comes to a growing institution must be met. An adequate library must be provided and maintained. The income of the college must be large enough to enable it to secure and retain able educators in its faculty and to increase their number when necessary. The need for an adequate endowment is urgent and imperative. The future of the college and to a large extent that of Methodism in Missouri is dependent upon it.

The General Education Board recently agreed to make a gift of \$75,000 to the endowment fund upon the sole condition that the college raise \$225,000 additional. This brings

us face to face with a great crisis. If the church fails to rise to this opportunity it may be safely said she will not soon find another willing to help her after she has so clearly proven herself unworthy of such help. If this generous gift does not inspire us to help ourselves it is very evident that we shall never do so without such inspiration.

Recognizing both the crisis and the opportunity the Board of Curators is planning a campaign by which they hope to meet this condition and secure this generous gift. By so doing the college will be placed upon a solid financial basis, and its increasing usefulness insured for future years. Realizing what success or failure means to our beloved church in Missouri we presiding elders of the three conferences in the state join in an earnest appeal that you help forward in every possible way this important work. We urge that you give it your sympathy, your influence, your prayers, and above all your means. Some large gifts have been promised already. More will be needed and secured. If the movement is to succeed givers both large and small must come to its aid. We have faith to believe that the church will not fail its college in her hour of need.

J. M. BOON, Presiding Elder Chillicothe District.
W. P. BUCKNER, Presiding Elder Lexington District.
A. C. JOHNSON, Presiding Elder Fayette District.
A. B. CULBERTSON, Presiding Elder Mexico District.
A. C. BROWNING, Presiding Elder Plattsburg District.
H. D. THOMPSON, Presiding Elder Hannibal District.
M. H. MOORE, Presiding Elder Macon District.
C. B. DUNCAN, Presiding Elder St. Charles District.
C. H. BRIGGS, Presiding Elder St. Joseph District.
O. M. RICKMAN, Presiding Elder Joplin District.
W. T. McCLURE, Presiding Elder Kansas City District.
S. M. ROBINSON, Presiding Elder Gallatin District.
W. M. RADER, Presiding Elder Marshall District.
J. E. ALEXANDER, Presiding Elder Nevada District.
O. E. VIVION, Presiding Elder Western District.
W. B. HAYS, Presiding Elder Charleston District.
J. W. WORSNOP, Presiding Elder DeSoto District.
A. H. BARNES, Presiding Elder Dexter District.
WILLIAM COURT, Presiding Elder Farmington District.
W. A. HUMPHREYS, Presiding Elder Poplar Bluff District.
C. M. HAWKINS, Presiding Elder St. Louis District.

